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Agenda item 118
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 6 October 1998 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith for appropriate action by the Fifth Committee a letter dated 2 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations, which contains a request for an exception to the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations (see annex).

(Signed) Didier **Opertti**

98-29534 (E) 061098 061098

Annex

Letter dated 2 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

[Original: English]

As you may know, in order to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations, Georgia has to make a payment in the amount of US$ 2,853,600.

Since Georgia's admission to membership of the United Nations, the Government of Georgia has always made an effort not to fail in timely making its contribution to the Organization.

The problems of the economic transition have proved to be a heavy burden on the country's economy. Despite ongoing reforms and growth of the economic indicators, the Government of Georgia was compelled to reallocate the funds from its budget initially intended for international organizations to the urgent needs of hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons.

Despite acute financial problems, the Government of Georgia is making every effort to carry out its financial obligations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. A decision has been adopted to cover the minimal amount of indebtedness in the near future.

Proceeding from the above and with a view to making possible the full functioning of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations, namely, its participation in the elections to the important bodies of the United Nations, to be held in October, we request that the Fifth Committee discuss the possibility of granting Georgia the right to vote, before such payment is made.

(Signed) Peter **Chkheidze**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative